

#12/B  
3-11-3  
Roberts

Docket No.: 1442.1007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Tatsuya FUJIKI, et al.

Serial No. 09/477,405

Group Art Unit: 2835

Confirmation No. 9196

Filed: January 4, 2000

Examiner: Lisa S. Lea Edmonds

For: FUNCTION EXPANDING DEVICE FOR ELECTRONIC HARDWARE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please REPLACE the specification with the attached substitute specification.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A function expanding device comprising:  
a first connection part connectable to a unit which expands a function of electronic hardware;  
a second connection part connectable to the electronic hardware;  
an operation part that enables a user to drive the unit independent of driving the unit by the electronic hardware ; and  
a housing forming said first and second connection parts.

2. (UNAMENDED) A function expanding device according to claim 1, further comprising a control part which may control the unit independent of the electronic hardware.

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